

October 8, 2010

The Glastonbury Town Council
2155 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: Town Manager's Report

Dear Council Members:

The following will keep you up-to-date on various topics.

1. Project Updates:

Williams Street Bridge – Work is expected to begin over the next several weeks. During construction, Williams Street at the bridge will be closed to traffic for 30-40 days. Notice of the schedule and road closure will be forwarded to adjacent property owners. Signs announcing the road closure will also be posted.

Riverfront Park – Preliminary site preparation for the dog park and extension of the trail system are underway. Initial work involves mowing, brush cutting, selective tree trimming, sedimentation/erosion controls, drainage, etc. This will include grading of the dog park area and placing wood chips on the surface. Work will continue through fall months, weather permitting, and begin again next spring.

House Street Sidewalks – Work is underway with the project beginning at the intersection of Hebron Avenue and proceeding northerly along House Street.

2. Expense Report:

A copy of my expense report for the 3 month period July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010 is forwarded separately. I will appreciate Council formally recognizing receipt of this report.

3. Grant Award:

I am pleased to advise Glastonbury is awarded a \$200,000 state grant for the Riverfront Park Phase II project. The grant notice was received on Monday, October 4th. To date, approved grants for the Phase II project total \$1.935 million.

4. Bond Re-funding:

The bond refunding process was completed on September 28, 2010. The results generally met estimates with a combined savings of \$929,900. The savings will be largely recognized in 2012 and 2013 at \$435,673 and \$430,287 respectively. A good result.

5. Fall Clean Up:

As in prior years, the Transfer Station will observe extended weekend hours on Sundays, October 17th through October 21st. This allows homeowners greater access to the Transfer Station for fall cleanup activities.

6. Bond Rating:

As noted previously, Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service reaffirmed Glastonbury AAA bond ratings as part of the recent bond refunding. I have attached a copy of the report by Moody's and highlighted several areas for your review. The comments by Moody's emphasize and confirm the importance of various financial practices observed in Glastonbury.

7. Central Connecticut Solid Waste Authority (CCSWA):

The CCSWA is comprised of approximately 21 communities including Glastonbury. The group was formed to review options for solid waste and recycling when the 20± year agreement with CRRA ends in 2012. Based on different interpretations of the Agreement with CRRA (between member towns and CRRA) a compromise position requires cities and towns to enter a new Agreement with CRRA by July 2011.

The CCSWA plans to conduct a formal Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process over the short-term to better identify options for solid waste and recycling. A process to identify potential options was conducted several months ago attracting a number of respondents. Based on the RFQ, specific proposals and negotiations can occur with a selected vendor. This could certainly include CRRA. The process of developing, distributing and evaluating qualifications requires technical assistance and legal counsel. At this point the estimated cost to Glastonbury totals \$21,000+. Estimated costs are allocated to member towns based on population. Through cost savings in tip fees and by allocating the CRRA tip fee allowance to the current year, funds are available for this process without a special appropriation.

I will be attending a CCSWA meeting the week of October 11th and have discussed the preceding with Council Leadership. Allocation of funds for the RFQ and related services will be reviewed with Council Leadership based on updated information from the upcoming CCSWA meeting.

I will be happy to review the preceding and any other items Tuesday evening.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Johnson
Town Manager

RJJ:yo
attachments